## **Preparing for Private Sector Careers**

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Raed Samara received his B.S. degree from Valparaiso University in biology and chemistry, and his Ph.D. degree from Georgetown University in tumor biology. He worked for 4 years as a postdoctoral fellow at the NCI, conducting research in the field of cancer immunology with emphasis on identifying strategies to boost the efficacy of cancer vaccines. Currently, he is a scientist in the R&D Project Management Department of QIAGEN at Frederick, where he coordinates multiple life sciences product development projects across R&D, Marketing, and Operations teams. He is also leading global product management efforts where he develops training modules and marketing material to support effective global product launches.

In addition to his research interests while at the NCI, Raed was an active member on several committees at the NCI and NIH. He was a member of the CCR FYI Steering Committee, served as the Center for Cancer Research (NCI) liaison to the National Postdoctoral Association and co-chair of workshops for the 2010 FYI Colloquium. Additionally, he served on both the Job Recruitment and Career Development Subcommittees of NIH FelCom.

## Topics to be covered:

- What is project management?
- Day-to-day responsibilities in project management
- Skills needed for project management
- Differences between academia and industry
- Culture in industry
- What industry looks for in applicants
- Career progression
- Job security
- What you need to do